

# CACFP

**The Child and Adult Care Food Program**  
Serve healthy meals. Receive financial support.



## **Child Care Centers**

**Breakfast – Lunch – Snack – Supper**

Family Day Care Homes

Adult Day Care Centers

Outside-School-Hours Care Centers

Emergency Shelters

**Learn more. Contact the DC CACFP Office at (202) 442-4010.**

Wellness and Nutrition Services, Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Government of the District of Columbia  
810 First St, NE – 4th Floor, Washington, DC 20002 • Phone: (202) 727-1839 • Fax: (202) 724-7656

Revised 01/13

# Child and Adult Care Food Program

## Child Care Centers

### What is CACFP?

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) was founded in 1968 to provide federal funds for healthy meals and snacks served in child care settings. The CACFP provides a monthly financial subsidy, training and technical assistance, nutrition education, and food safety information to care providers who serve nutritious meals and snacks to eligible participants.

Over time, CACFP eligibility has been expanded to more types of organizations. Emergency (homeless, domestic violence, and runaway) shelters that serve meals and snacks to children may also be eligible for the Program. The CACFP is also available to area-eligible afterschool programs that offer regular educational and enrichment activities as well as adult day care centers serving chronically impaired adults or people over age 60.

Meals must meet the Federal guidelines. For most types of organizations, meals are reimbursed based on the participants' household income eligibility.

### CACFP & Child Care Centers

Eligible public or private non-profit child care centers, outside-school-hours care centers, Head Start programs, and other institutions that are licensed to provide day care services may participate in the CACFP, either independently or as sponsored centers. Meals served to children are reimbursed at rates based upon a child's eligibility for free, reduced-price, or paid school meals.

In addition, for-profit centers may participate in the CACFP but must receive Title XX funds for at least 25 percent of enrolled children or licensed capacity (whichever is less), or at least 25 percent of the enrolled children must be eligible for free and reduced-price meals.

### CACFP Benefits

- Receive assistance with healthy meal planning.
- Help make sure that DC's children have access to three healthy meals every day.
- Receive financial support for your center's meal service.

**By serving 50 children eligible for free meals, you can get up to \$65,010\* per year to supplement your food budget.**

*\*Based on 2012-2013 rates and 240 operating days per year.*

### Center Eligibility Checklist

- Valid child care license
- Non-profit organization **OR** for-profit organization serving eligible children
- At least one Certified Food Safety Manager

### Eligible Children

#### Full-Day Care Program

- Infants to pre-school-age children

#### Before-and-After / Outside-School-Hours Care Program

- School-age children up to the age of 12

Centers may receive reimbursement for meals served to school-age children who attend the center before and after school, during school breaks, and weekends.

#### Afterschool Programs

- School age children up to the age of 18

**Area-eligible centers** may receive reimbursement for snacks and/or suppers served to school-age children attending a structured afterschool program at the center on school days, weekends, holidays, and breaks during the school year.

### The CACFP Meal Program

#### Meal Types and Examples

##### **Breakfast:**

Whole grain cereal, banana slices, 1% low-fat milk

##### **Lunch:**

Bean soup, carrots, peaches, cornbread, 1% low-fat milk

##### **Snack:**

Raisin bread with peanut butter, water

#### Meal Reimbursement for FY 2013

Traditional centers may receive reimbursement for up to two meals and a snack **OR** two snacks and a meal per child per day.

Meals are reimbursed based on each child's household income:

- Breakfast: \$0.27 paid, \$1.25 reduced-price, \$1.55 free
- Lunch/Supper: \$0.27 paid, \$2.46 reduced-price, \$2.86 free plus \$0.2275 cash-in-lieu of commodities
- Snack: \$0.07 paid, \$0.39 reduced-price, \$0.78 free

*\*All meals served in area-eligible afterschool programs are reimbursed at the "free" rate.*

#### Meal Preparation

##### **Self-Preparation**

Centers may employ their own cooks, purchase their own food and prepare meals from scratch each day.

##### **Vended Meals**

Centers may have their meals prepared and delivered by a licensed catering company. You will receive guidance from the CACFP office on how to initiate this process.